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experience in reading "Current Law." For the work is well done, evidently by men who have read the decisions understandingly and who are able to state the principles of law to be found in them clearly and concisely. The work, however, is something more than an encyclopedia of this day's law; the main body of the text is that, but in the notes are to be found, on many topics at least, ample illustrations of former applications of the same principles.

"Current Law" is certainly a labor saving publication of high order and its projectors deserve the thanks and the substantial support of an overworked profession.

JAMES H. BREWSTER.

A TREATISE ON AMERICAN ADVOCACY, based upon the Standard English Treatise, entitled Hints on Advocacy, by Richard Harris. Enlarged, completely revised and Americanized by Alexander H. Robbins, editor of the Central Law Journal. St. Louis: Central Law Journal Co., 1904. pp. xiv, 295.

This is a very useful handbook of general practice. There has been no dearth of works on this subject, but the common fault with most of them has been an excessive diffuseness, as wearying as it is profitless. Elliott, the best known of the American works on advocacy, suffers severely from this defect. But Harris's little treatise, which forms the basis of the book under review, is concise and pointed, full of excellent advice, while free from rambling generalities and tedious platitudes. The scope of his treatment may be seen from the following list of chapter titles: Opening Plaintiff's Case; Opening Defendant's Case; Examination in Chief; Cross Examination; Re-examination; Summing up Defendant's Case; The Reply; Conduct of a Criminal Prosecution; Conduct of a Defense in a Criminal Trial; Classes of Witnesses; and Tact and Tactics. The chapters added by Mr. Robbins,—on Office Work and Preparation for Trial; Briefs, Arguments and Methods of Speaking; Legal Ethics; and Compensation and Advertising,—while perhaps less *strikingly* new and original than the preface seems to promise, nevertheless well supplement Mr. Harris's chapters. Taken altogether, the book is a most interesting and valuable presentation of the subject of advocacy, and it ought to prove very helpful to the young practitioner.

EDSON R. SUNDERLAND.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE. By T. B. Edgington, A.M. Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 1904. pp. xxxi, 345.

This new work on the "Monroe Doctrine" may be characterized as a medley of historical narrative, international law discussion, and technical legal argument. The history is bad, the international law questionable, and the legal argument remarkably good. The author seems wholly unacquainted with the best piece of historical writing on the nature and origin of the "Monroe Doctrine." He fails to see—what Worthington C. Ford has conclusively shown in his articles in the *American Historical Review* (vols. vii-viii)—how "a question which arose as a distinctly European question was changed to an American matter; how it was altered from one pertaining solely to the

relations between the United States and England to one that concerned our relations with all Europe." Had Mr. Edgington understood this he could not have written (p. 92) "The term 'Monroe Doctrine' simply became a new name for an old policy of the government." Nor could he have asserted that "a review of the history of this country prior to Monroe's administration shows that neither of them [J. Quincy Adams or Monroe] was its [the 'Monroe Doctrine'] author."

The author discusses in succession the Monroe Doctrine, the Panama Congress, the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, the French Invasion of Mexico and Maximilian's Empire, the Venezuelan Boundary, the Canal and the Hague Tribunal. There is little of value except the discussion of what the author calls the "Calvo Doctrine" that "a nation's public law does not admit of intervention by foreign nations." The real discussion is rather one of the doctrine of certain South American states that a resident foreigner though unjustly treated in the courts of the country in which he resides may be deprived of appeal to his own country. Mr. Edgington does not clearly show that Calvo's doctrine can be made to mean this, but as to the real question—the assumption by the South American states—he shows by a well fortified argument that it is a monstrous pretension. This point is well taken, but some of the methods suggested (p. 297) by which the United States is to curb South American presumption are curios in International Law. The author is ingenious rather than worthy of serious consideration, in his suggestions for solving certain international problems. The book is, on the whole, the work of an enthusiastic, but not very well prepared amateur. C. H. VAN TYNE.